

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05

NSC-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 AGR-05 L-03 /083 W

----- 033730

R 090043Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7268

INFO TREASURY WASHDC

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TREASURY FOR UNDER SECRETARY YEO.

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN MX

SUBJECT: IMPORT AND EXPORT TARIFFS.

1. FINANCE MINISTER BETETA ANNOUNCED ON SEPTEMBER 7 NEW  
TARIFF SCHEDULE FOR IMPORTS AND EXPORTS. THESE ARE HAILED  
IN PRESS AS FIRST ECONOMIC READJUSTMENT MEASURES SINCE  
DECISION TO FLOAT.

2. NEWSPAPERS REPORT HIM AS SAYING IMPORT TARIFFS WILL  
BE REDUCED FROM AN AVERAGE OF 20 PERCENT TO 9 PERCENT.  
THE IMPORT TARIFF USED TO FINANCE EXPORT PROMOTION EFFORTS  
IS TO BE REDUCED FROM TWO TO ONE PERCENT. AS NEW IMPORT TARIFFS  
HAVE SAME RANGE AS OLD (ZERO TO 75 PERCENT), IT IS NOT YET  
CLEAR WHERE CUTS ARE BEING MADE. OFFICIAL PRICES WHICH  
ARE USED FOR PURPOSES OF LEVYING TARIFFS ARE BEING ADJUSTED  
BUT IT IS NOT APPARENT IN WHICH DIRECTION.

3. EXPORT TARIFFS WERE JUSTIFIED ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT  
IS NECESSARY TO (A) AVOID THE IMPACT ON DOMESTIC PRICES  
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THAT HIGHER EXPORT EARNINGS DUE TO THE EXCHANGE RATE

COULD HAVE, AND (B) HELP FINANCE THE PUBLIC SECTOR WHOSE COSTS HAVE RISEN AS A RESULT OF THE EXCHANGE RATE CHANGE. SPECIFIC EXPORT TARIFFS WERE NOT ANNOUNCED AND APPARENTLY THESE ARE STILL BEING DEVELOPED. HOWEVER, THE FINANCE MINISTRY SAID THAT THE AVERAGE EXPORT TARIFF ON FISH AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS WOULD BE 20 PERCENT AND ON MANUFACTURED GOODS, 7.5 PERCENT. HIGHER EXPORT TARIFFS WILL BE IMPOSED ON SUCH PRODUCTS AS COFFEE AND PETROLEUM. BETETA SAID THE NEW TARIFFS WILL BE FOR ONE YEAR AND MAY BE ADJUSTED IF NECESSARY FOR COMPETITIVE REASONS. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THE EXPORT TAX CREDIT SYSTEM WOULD BE SUSPENDED.

4. NO CHANGES IN THE IMPORT LICENSING SYTEM WERE MENTIONED.

5. U.S. CONSUL IN NUEVO LAREDO TELLS US THAT THE BORDER HAS BEEN CLOSED TO MEXICAN EXPORT UNTIL THE NEW TARIFFS ARE PUBLISHED WHICH WE UNDERSTAND WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SEPTEMBER 9.  
THOMPSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, EXPORTS, CUSTOMS DUTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 SEP 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** blochd0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MEXICO11538  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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